

Legislation.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Landlord and Tenant.

Lord PORTMAN is the author of this bill, which is intitled "An Act to amend the Law relating to Landlord and Tenant." The order for the second reading this week was discharged; but his lordship expressed his intention of carrying it through this session, so that our readers should be made acquainted with it. It recites, sect. 1, that it is expedient that provision should in certain cases be made for securing compensation to tenants, who shall make permanent improvements on the lands they occupy, and proposes to enact, that it shall be lawful for any tenant of any farm or land, who shall hold the same from the freeholder or tenant for life, for a term not less than twelve years, intending to make any permanent improvements thereon, and for which an adequate immediate return cannot be obtained, to give notice thereof to his landlord, or to the agent of such landlord, specifying in detail the nature of such intended improvements; and such landlord, on receiving such notice as aforesaid, shall, within the space of three months then next following, signify in writing, to be given to the said tenant, or left for him on the premises occupied by him as aforesaid, his dissent thereto.

Sect. 2. In case such landlord shall not within the said space of three months signify his dissent as aforesaid, it shall be lawful for the tenant to proceed with such permanent improvement as aforesaid; and in case such tenant is compelled to quit the said premises by notice from his landlord, previous to the expiration of the said term of twelve years, and in case of disagreement as to the value of such improvement, or the amount of compensation to be made to the said tenant, the same shall be settled and determined by two surveyors, one to be appointed by the said landlord; and the other by the said tenant, and in case they cannot agree, then by an umpire to be appointed by such surveyors; and the award or umpirage so made by them as aforesaid shall be made in writing, and shall be binding and conclusive on all parties, and the performance thereof shall and may be enforced by action in any of her Majesty's superior courts of record.

[There should be an express enactment that the landlord shall be liable to pay compensation for the improvement. As the bill at present stands, that main cause of its introduction is to be gathered from it by implication only. After the words in the 2nd section, "improvement as aforesaid," some such words as these should be added: "and such landlord shall be liable to pay to the said tenant such compensation for such permanent improvement as shall be agreed upon between them."—*Justice of the Peace.*]

COPYRIGHT OF DESIGNS BILL.

Bill to amend the Laws relating to the Copyright of Designs.

THE preamble recites an act passed in the fifth and sixth years of the reign of her present Majesty, intitled, "an act to consolidate and amend the laws relating to the copyright of designs for ornamenting articles of manufacture," whereby was granted to the proprietor of any new and original design, with the exceptions therein mentioned, the sole right to apply the same to the ornamenting of any article of manufacture, or any such substance as therein described, during the respective periods therein mentioned; and that it is expedient to extend the protection afforded by the said act to such designs hereinafter mentioned, not being of an ornamental character, as are not included therein. Section 1 enacts, That this act shall come into operation on the

Section 2 enacts, That with regard to any new and original design for any article of manufacture (except such designs as are within the provisions of the said act, or of two other acts, passed respectively in the thirty-eighth and fifty-fourth years of the reign of his late Majesty George III., and intitled, respectively, "an act for encouraging the art of making new models and casts of busts, and other things therein mentioned," and "an act to amend and render more effectual an act for encouraging the art of making new models and casts of busts and other things therein mentioned, and for giving further encouragement to such art,") so far as such design shall be for the shape or configuration of such article, and whether it be for the whole of such shape and configuration, or only for a part thereof. The proprietor of such design, not previously published within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, or elsewhere, shall have the sole right to apply such design to any article, or make or sell any article according to such design, for the term of three years, to be computed from the time of such design being registered according to this act.

Section 3 provides, That no person shall be entitled to the benefit of this act unless such design have, before publication thereof, been registered ac-

cording to this act, and unless the name of such person shall be registered according to this act as a proprietor of such design, and unless after publication of such design every article of manufacture made by him according to such design, or on which such design is used, hath thereon the word, "registered," with the date of registration.

Section 4 enacts, That unless a design applied to any article of manufacture be registered either as aforesaid or according to the provisions of the said first-mentioned act, and also after the copyright of such design shall have expired, it shall be unlawful to put on any such article the word "registered," or to advertise the same for sale as a registered article; and if any person shall so unlawfully publish, sell, or expose or advertise for sale any such article of manufacture, he shall forfeit for every such offence a sum not exceeding five pounds nor less than one pound, which may be recovered by any person proceeding for the same by any of the remedies hereby given for the recovery of penalties for pirating any such design.

Section 5 enacts, That all such articles of manufacture as are commonly known by the name of floor-cloths or oil-cloths shall henceforth be considered as included in class six in the said first-mentioned act in that behalf mentioned, and be registered accordingly.

Section 6 enacts, That all and every the clauses and provisions contained in the said first-mentioned act, so far as they are not repugnant to the provisions contained in this act, relating respectively to the explanation of the term proprietor, to the transfer of designs, to the piracy of designs, to the mode of recovering penalties, to actions for damages, to cancelling and amending registrations, to the limitation of actions, to the awarding of costs, to the certificate of registration, to the fixing and application of fees of registration, and to the penalty for extortion, shall be applied and extended to this present act, as fully and effectually to all intents and purposes, as if the said several clauses and provisions had been particularly repeated and re-enacted in the body of this act.

Section 7 provides for the appointment of a registrar.

Section 8 enacts, That the said registrar shall not register any design for the shape or configuration of any article of manufacture as aforesaid, unless he be furnished with two exactly similar drawings or prints of such design, with such description in writing as may be necessary to render the same intelligible, according to the judgment of the said registrar, together with the title of the said design, and the name of every person who shall claim to be proprietor, or of the style or title of the firm under which such proprietor may be trading, with his place of abode, or place of carrying on business, or other place of address; and every such drawing or print, together with the title and description of such design, and the name and address of the proprietor aforesaid, shall be on one sheet of paper or parchment, and on the same side thereof; and the size of the said sheet shall not exceed twenty-four inches by fifteen inches; and there shall be left on one of the said sheets a blank space on the same side on which are the said drawings, title, description, name, and address of the size of six inches by four inches, for the certificate herein mentioned; and the said drawings or prints, shall be made on a proper geometric scale; and the said description shall set forth such part or parts of the said design (if any) as shall not be new or original; and the said registrar shall register all such drawings or prints from time to time as they are received by him for that purpose; and on every such drawing or print he shall affix a number corresponding to the order of succession in the register, and he shall retain one drawing or print which he shall file at his office; and the other he shall return to the person by whom the same has been forwarded to him; and in order to give a ready access to the designs so registered, he shall keep a proper index of the titles thereof.

Section 9 enacts, That if any design be brought to the said registrar to be registered under the said first-mentioned Act, and it shall appear to him that the same ought to be registered under this present act, it shall be lawful for the said registrar to refuse to register such design otherwise than under the present act, and in the manner hereby provided; and if it shall appear to the said registrar that the design brought to be registered under the first-mentioned act or this act is not intended to be applied to any article of manufacture, but only to some label, wrapper, or other covering in which such article might be exposed for sale, or that such design is contrary to public morality or order, it shall be lawful for the said registrar, in his discretion, wholly to refuse to register such design: Provided always, That the Lords of the said Committee of Privy Council may, on representation made to them by the proprietor of any design so wholly refused to be registered as aforesaid, if they shall see fit, direct the said registrar to register

such design, whereupon and in such case the said registrar shall be and is hereby required to register the same accordingly.

Section 10 enacts, "That every person shall be at liberty to inspect the index of the titles of the designs, not being ornamental designs, registered under this act, and to take copies from the same, paying only such fees as shall be appointed by virtue of this act in that behalf; and every person shall be at liberty to inspect any such design, and to take copies thereof, paying such fee as aforesaid; but no design whereof the copyright shall not have expired shall be open to inspection, except in the presence of such registrar, or in the presence of some person holding an appointment under this act, and not so as to take a copy of such design, nor without paying such fee as aforesaid."

Section 11—Interpretation clause.

HOUSE OF LORDS, July 25.—FINE ARTS.—HOUSE OF PARLIAMENT.—Lord BROUGHTON, knowing the character of the artists of this country, wished to notice something which had occurred in the Houses of Parliament building committee. The Committee of Taste had issued an advertisement addressed to all the artists of this country, inviting them to send in drawings or models of an ornamental nature for the two houses of Parliament. He looked upon this, not so much as a matter of delay, because their lordships could sit in the new houses before they were adorned, and they might be adorned during the long recess, but he looked upon it as a source of great expense. He was far from saying what the wisdom and generosity of Parliament might do, but it was only charity to give those persons who were likely to send in models or drawings timely notice that they would do so at their own risk. The artists who sent must be told they would be wrong, if they thought thereby that they were certain of public orders to execute the work, or if they took for granted that they would obtain remuneration for their labour.—The Marquis of LANSDOWNE said that great care had been taken, in all the notices with regard to the works alluded to, to guard the artists against supposing that they would receive any remuneration besides that specifically stated in the notice. No expense would be incurred, except for the prizes, on the subject of the cartoons. With regard to them, persons had to go out of their usual habits of study, which they could not be expected to do without a remuneration in the shape of prizes. With respect to other departments of the art, they would only have to execute works in accordance with their usual studies; the object was only to give specimens of the public proficiency of each artist. He would be as jealous as his noble friend if any great expense were to be incurred; but a committee of the other house had advised that advantage should be taken of the decoration of the new houses to give encouragement to art.—Lord BROUGHTON was aware that there was to be no payment for the models or drawings, but the artists would expect afterwards to have employment; now it by no means followed that after the artists had sent in their models they would obtain employment: they should know it was not certain that the wisdom or economy of Parliament would allow it.—July 31.—Upon the motion of Lord WHARFCLIFFE, the Loan Societies Act Continuance Bill was read a third time and passed.—Upon the motion of the Marquis of LANSDOWNE, the Bridges (Ireland) Bill was read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, July 27.—Lord ASHLEY moved that the order of the day for the second reading of the Industrious Classes Bill be now read, for the purpose of being discharged. The noble lord intimated that he would again introduce the bill during the next session.—July 28.—On the motion of Mr. M. STURTON, the Loan Societies Bill was read a second time; went through committee, and was read a third time and passed.—July 31.—METROPOLITAN IMPROVEMENT BILL.—On reading the order of the day for the second reading of this bill, Mr. HAWES wished to know from the noble Earl at the head of the Woods and Forests when he intended to proceed with this bill.—The Earl of LINCOLN said that he would postpone this measure until next session, as he found so many honourable members anxious to take part in the discussion of it. [We shall take an opportunity before the next session of laying these bills before the reader.]

WOOD PAVEMENT.—Since Wednesday week, a number of labourers have been engaged in picking up and removing the Maccadamised stones on that portion of the Great Western road extending from the entrance to Kensington Palace to the western end of Kensington High-street, a distance of nearly a quarter of a mile, preparatory to the whole being laid with wood pavement, by order of the Commissioners of the Metropolitan Roads. The contractors (Messrs. Mylne and Co.) are under bond to complete it within two months.